Juvenile-Sex-Abuse

2671. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SH1NDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day seminar on Juvenile-sex-abuse was held under the aegis of the UNICEF in Panjim (Goa) in May-June, 1996;

(b) if so, what were the main revelations about the extent (percentage) of children who fall a victim to such abuse' within the families in remand homes, in children homes and in custody, in India and other developing countries; and

(c) what effective steps contemplated to prevent such sex abase?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The seminar concluded that an exact estimate of the extent of sexual abuse of children would not be possible in view of the nature of the offence and recommended that efforts should be made to tackle the problem through the joint efforts of State, civil society, elected representatives of the rural and urban local self governments and children themselves, universalisation ,of primary education and awareness generation.

Withdrawl of AC Coach from Neelanchal Express

2672. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have withdrawn one of the two AC 2 tier coaches from Neelanchal Express;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to restore that coach on Neelanchal Express;

(d) whether Government have a proposal to introduce three AC coaches in the long distance trains; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An additional A.C. 2nd Sleeper coach has been provided on 2801/2802 Purushottam Express which is a more popular train.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. So far 40 Pairs of Mail/Express trains including 10 Pairs of Rajdhanis have been provided with A.C.

Soil Conservation in Karnataka

2673. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent on soil conservation in Karnataka during the last three years; and

(b) the results achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) According to information received from the Government of Karnataka an amount of Rs. 21914.00 lakhs has been spent on soil conservation under various State and Central Sector Schemes in the last three years *i.e.* 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(b) In last three years an area of 5.97 lakh ha. has been treated by suitable soil and water conservation measures. It has been reported by the State Government that the implementation of soil and water conservation measures have resulted in conservation of top soil, conservation of

biomass, increasing ground water recharge in addition to production of fuel and fodder for the local people.

Expenditure on Foreign Travel

2674. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure on foreign travels undertaken by the officials of his Ministry in the last five years;

(b) the countries and the purpose of the visit; and

(c) whether any report(s) were submitted by them and action taken thereon; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD):. (a) to (c) The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

खजुराहो के लिए रेल लाइन

2675. श्री गोविन्द राम मिरी: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि खजुराहो के लिए रेल सुविधा कब तक उपलब्ध करा दी जायेगी और इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): महोबा से खजुराहो तक रेल संपर्क की व्यवस्था के लिये सर्वेक्षण कार्य अभी पूरा हुआ है। क्षेत्रीय रेलवे के विचार-विमर्श से सर्वेक्षण के परिणामों को अंतिम रूप दिया जा रहा है। सर्वेक्षण के परिणामों को अंतिम रूप दिये जाने के बाद योजना आयोग के विचार-विमर्श से परियोजना पर आगे विचार किया जाएगा।

Poor Condition of Rail Coaches in Kerala

2676. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway coaches which are in use in Kerala are very old and are not rail worthy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many coaches taken for maintenance and repair are not returned to Trivandrum Division and the trains are running with reduced number of coaches; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve the conditions of the coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir. The coaches working in Kerala area are all within the useful economic life of a coach, comparatively younger in age and maintained in safe working condition.

(b) The coaches are sometimes detached and taken for maintenance attention. However, alternative coaches are provided and the trains in Trivandrum Division are running with proper composition.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal to Declare Primary Education as a Fundamental Right

2677. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
DR.MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have taken any concrete steps so far to make the right to free and compulsary elementary education a "Fundamental Right", as envisaged in their Common Minimum Programme;

(b) if so, what efforts/allocations were made in the current financial year to mobilise funds both at the Central and State levels; and

(c) whether Government have also gone into the legal aspect which may require amendment of the Constitution of India before declaring primary education as a "Fundamental Right"; if so, the details thereof?